

CARR-1615

923 S. Main Street, Hampstead

Summary:

The John M. Bush House, at 923 S. Main Street in Hampstead is constructed on two lots purchased by Bush in 1881. Bush was a farmer who owned a 112 acre tract on the east side of the Hanover Pike, near the border with Baltimore County. According to the 1877 Atlas, Bush's house was right up on the road. Bush was assessed for livestock valued at \$445 and farm implements valued at \$124 in 1876, suggesting that farming was a full time occupation for him. In 1880 he was assessed for a new barn. In April, 1881 a local newspaper noted that Bush was one of five men currently building houses in town. The following year the tax books assessed him for the two lots, totaling about ½ acre, and a new house. Thus the records clearly indicate that John Bush built this house in 1881.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-1615

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic John M. Bush House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 923 South Main Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Hampstead \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Franklin & Carol Yates

street & number 923 South Main Street telephone no.: (410) 374-5455

city, town Hampstead state and zip code Maryland 21074

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber 814

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 83

city, town Westminster state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title None

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1615

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SEE ATTACHED

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1615

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1881 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SEE ATTACHED

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1615

SEE ATTACHED

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 34,556 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Hampstead

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone Easting Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

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G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner

organization 225 North Center Street date (410) 386-2145

street & number Westminster telephone Maryland

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: ~~Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-1615

Description

Section 7 Page 1

The John M. Bush House is located at 923 South Main Street in Hampstead in northeastern Carroll County, Maryland. The house is located on the east side of the street and faces west toward the street. This is a 2 ½ story three bay by two bay wood structure with a rubble-stone foundation; wood shingle siding and a gable roof of standing seam metal with a north/south ridge. On the west elevation, the first story has a side passage plan with a door in the south bay that has one light over one lying panel over two panels. There is a 1-light transom and two 2/2 sash with blinds. There is a four bay 1 story porch that wraps around the south elevation. The south bay of the porch on the south side of the house is infilled now. The porch has five square posts; a wood deck and soffit and a hip roof. The second story has three 2/2 sash. There is a wood box cornice with returns and a wide fascia board below the cornice. There is a central gabled wall dormer with a lancet 2/2 sash, and there is an interior brick chimney on the north gable end. The north elevation of the main block has two 2/2 sash on the first and second stories and two small 2/2 sash in the gable end. There is a 2 story one bay by two bay ell on the east. It has wood shingle siding; a gable roof of standing seam metal with an east/west ridge and is set in the same plane as the north elevation of the main block. The north elevation of the ell has one 2/2 sash on both the first and second stories. There is a 1 ½ story shed roofed wing on the east end of the ell. The roof of this wing slopes down to the east. The north elevation of the wing has a 2/2 sash on the first story and a 4-light sash in the attic story. The wing is shingled and is set in the same plane as the ell and main block on the north elevation. The south elevation of the main block has infill on the first story; nothing on the second story and two small 2/2 sash in the gable end.

Attached to the southeast corner of the main block of the house is a building that probably functioned as a summer kitchen. It is 1 story and 1 bay square and has a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a north/south ridge. The building has wood shingle siding. It is attached to the porch on the west elevation and has a 2/2 sash on the south elevation. The south elevation of the ell is recessed and not flush with the south elevation of the main block. At the back of the lot is a ground barn. It is a 1 story frame structure with vertical board siding and a gable roof of both standing seam and corrugated metal with a north/south ridge. The roof is deteriorated. The north elevation of the barn has a shed attached to the first story. The shed has a shed roof and is open on the north elevation. There is a window opening in the gable end of the barn. The west elevation of the barn has a pair of wagon doors on rollers. Contributing resources 3.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-1615

Significance

Section 8 Page 1

The John M. Bush House, at 923 S. Main Street in Hampstead is constructed on two lots purchased by Bush in 1881. Bush was a farmer who owned a 112 acre tract on the east side of the Hanover Pike, near the border with Baltimore County. According to the 1877 Atlas, Bush's house was right up on the road. Bush was assessed for livestock valued at \$445 and farm implements valued at \$124 in 1876, suggesting that farming was a full time occupation for him. In 1880 he was assessed for a new barn. In April, 1881 a local newspaper noted that Bush was one of five men currently building houses in town. The following year the tax books assessed him for the two lots, totaling about ½ acre, and a new house. Thus the records clearly indicate that John Bush built this house in 1881. What they do not indicate is why?

In 1894 John Bush sold the new house and lot in town to George W. Armacost for \$1400. Bush still owned his farm, so this house may have been intended as a rental property from the beginning. Another possibility is that Bush wanted to move to town to pursue an occupation, but retained his farm and eventually gave up the occupation. This has been observed elsewhere in Carroll County. However, since Bush already lived on Hanover Pike, where there was plenty of traffic, it would have been easy to follow most occupations right at his existing home. Clearly, Bush was not building a retirement home as some farmers did. Thus, it is most likely, though not certain, that Bush considered this an investment, with the recent coming of the railroad and the subsequent growth of the town, this is a reasonable expectation.

The house Bush built was a side passage plan structure, which was not common for Hampstead, but included a control gabled wall dormer, which was typical of this period. The shingle siding is unusual for this period in Carroll County, and may be a twentieth century improvement. It is also possible that the side passage is a change from the same period; the original configuration may have had a center entrance. Further study of the house is certainly warranted.

George W. Armacost bought the house in 1894. The 1896-1910 tax assessment indicates a 3/4 acre lot with improvements worth \$850. This suggests a single house and out buildings. However, the 1899 insurance rate book lists two adjacent frame houses owned by Armacost, both insured at the same rate. Thus, it is not clear whether Armacost lived here or treated this house as an investment, as well. Armacost sold it in 1910, and in the twentieth century it has had several long term owners, suggesting it was owner occupied, though this is by no means certain.

**Geographic Organization:**

Piedmont

**Chronological/Developmental Periods:**

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Significance

Section 8 Page 2

**Historic Period Themes:**

Architecture

**Resource Type:**

Single Family Dwelling



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-1615

Bibliography

Section 9 Page 1

Carroll County Land Records

" " Tax Assessments: 1876-96; 1896-1910

*Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 9 April 1881, p.3. c1

*Insurance Rate Book*, 1899, p.4.

CARR- 1615  
923 S. Main Street  
Hampstead, Maryland

TITLE SEARCH

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS- ACTION	COMMENTS
Creamer Barbara L.	?	Yates, R. Franklin & Carol A., wife	?	9/24/1982	814	83	\$48,900.00 Deed	This deed conveys all of lot #1 & part of lot #2. Total area 34,556 sq.ft. The combined
Phillips, Hugh L.	?	Creamer, Barbara L.	?	8/13/1982	813	441	\$0. Deed fee simple	All of lot 1& part of lot 2 same as above
Baker Mildred L.S., widow	?	Hugh L. Phillips & Barbara L. Creamer (or joint tenants)	?	4/27/1979	739	370	\$5.00 Deed in fee simple	Parcels same as above
J. Best Cole, Individually J. Best Cole, Thomas B. W. Cole, Committee & Trustee	Carroll	Baker George W. & Mildred L. S. (gro. W. died 12/18/1965)	Carroll	8/11/1948	199	220	\$10.00 Deed in fee simple	Parcel as above Georgianna Carroll Co. Equity Case# 7079. Settling the inch of the dower interest of the declared incompetant lunatic
Sharrer Charles A. & Zula May, wife	Carroll	Cole J. Best	?	10/5/1940	173	517	\$10.00 deed in fee simple	Parcel described as above

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Hampstead, Maryland

TITLE SEARCH

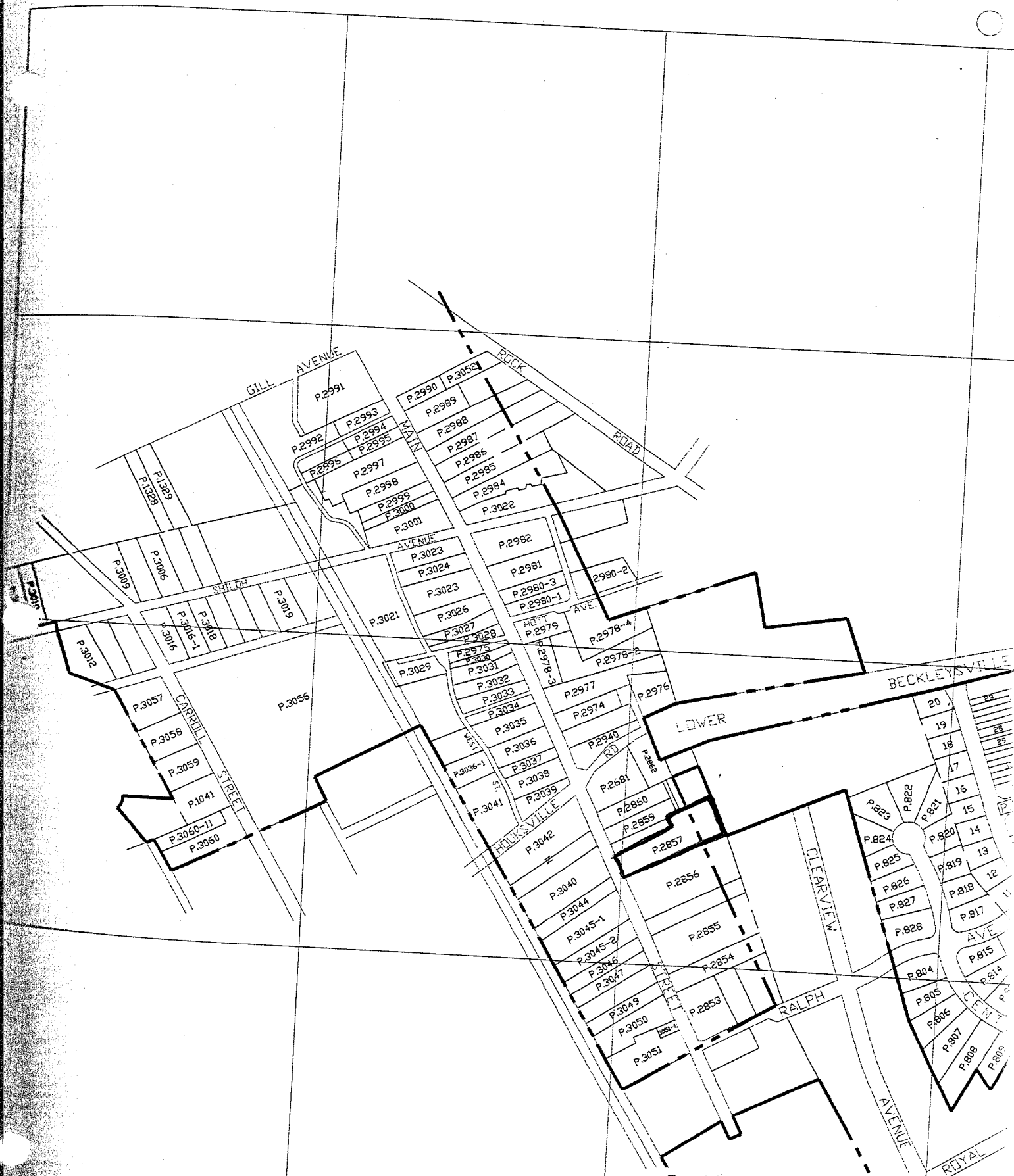
GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS- ACTION	COMMENTS
Armacost George W.	Carroll	Sharrer Charles A & Zula May	Carroll	6/25/1910	115	46	\$2000.00 Deed in fee simple	Parcels are referred as part of "Land off" & Spring Garden" T-Lot #2 is given dimensions of 21.5
Bush John w. Elinora wife	Carroll	Armacost George W.	Carroll	3/31/1894	78	359	\$1400.00 Deed in fee simple	Conveys 2 parcels descriptions as above
Richards William & Rebecca, wife	?	Bush John w.	?	5/25/1881	55	321	\$150.00 Deed in fee	Conveys all those contiguous parts of "Spring Garden" Land off deed for the 76 sq. per parcel
Richards William & Rebecca wife	?	Bush John W.	?	3/5/1881	55	43	\$145.00 Deed in fee	Conveys the 1/2 acre parcel previously described as lot #1 conveyed on Same deed from kemp

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Hampstead, Maryland

TITLE SEARCH

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS- ACTION	COMMENTS
Kemp, Joshua S. & Susan wife	?	Richards William	?	10/12/1871	40	530	\$2650.00 Deed	Conveys a 7 1/4 acre parcel part of spring garden landoff is facing reisterstown Hanover turnpike to w. Joms

h:\PLANNING\KEN\TTLI

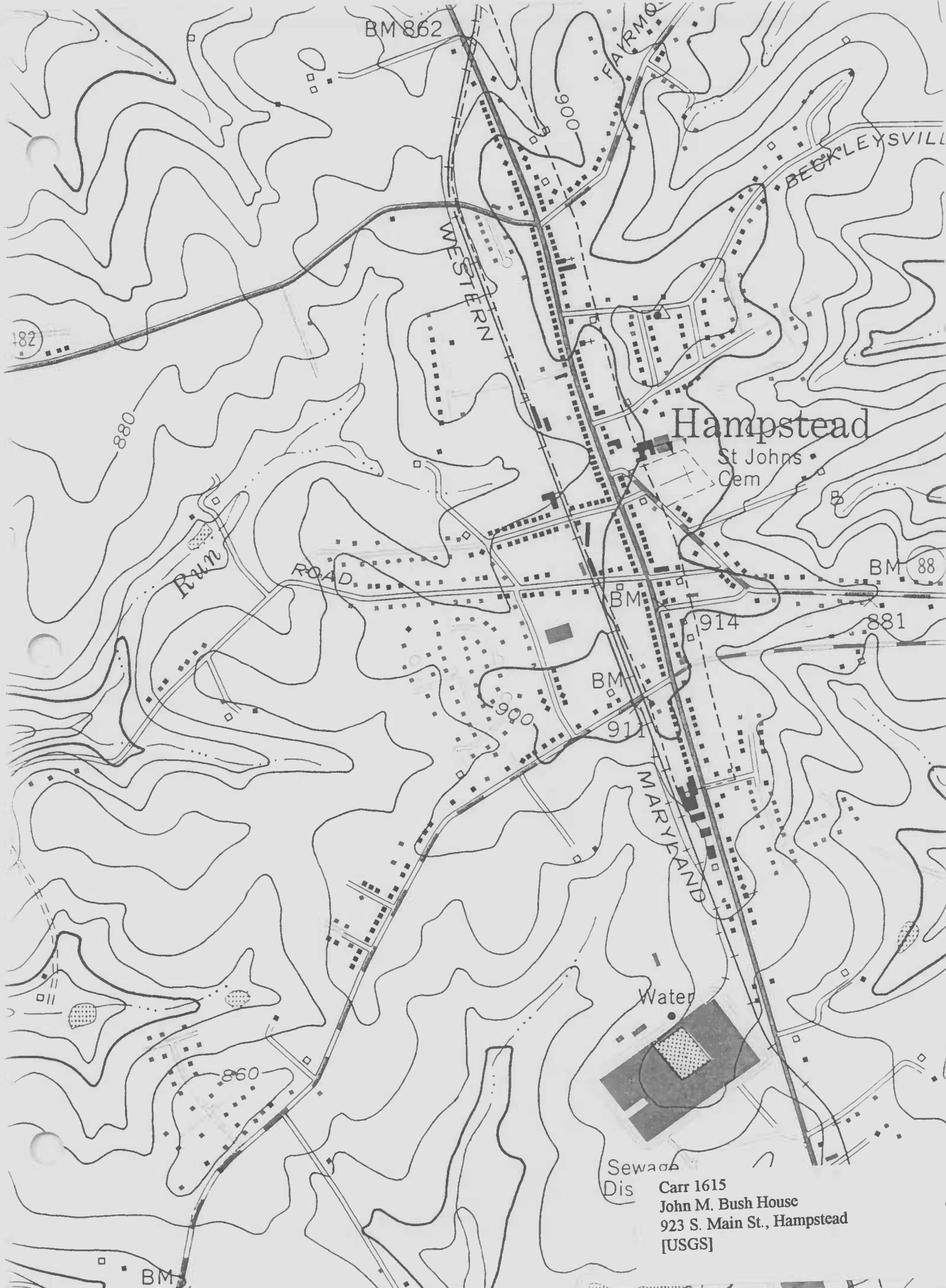


Carr 1615  
 John M. Bush House  
 923 S. Main St., Hampstead  
 Assessments & Taxation Map , parcel  
 502 2857

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Carr 1615  
John M. Bush House  
923 S. Main St., Hampstead  
[USGS]



CARR-1615

JOHN M. BUSH HOUSE

923 SOUTH MAIN STREET

HAMPSTEAD, CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND

PHOTO: KENNETH M. SHORT

DATE: DEC. '98

NEG. LOC: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

NORTH & WEST ELEVATIONS

1 OF 1